

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 161745

DISTO

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WITH INFO BONN MOSCOW
PARIS AND NATO FROM LONDON DATED 10 AUG 73 REPEATED YOU:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 09205

E.O.11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, UR, UK

SUBJECT: US-UK AGREEMENT ON PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR

1. TICKELL, HEAD OF NATO DEPT AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE, HAS INFORMED US OF A VISIT HE HAD ON AUGUST 8 FROM SEMENOV, POLITICAL COUNSELOR AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY, WHO RAISED WITH HIM THE QUESTION OF ACCESSION OF OTHER STATES TO THE US-UK AGREEMENT ON PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR. SEMENOV RECALLED THAT THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE WILLINGNESS OF OTHER STATES TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE AGREEMENT. HE SAID THAT THE OTHER NUCLEAR POWERS WERE OF COURSE PARTICULARLY THOSE THE SOVIETS HAD IN MIND, AND THAT THE FAVORABLE BRITISH REACTION TO THE AGREEMENT HAD BEEN NOTED IN MOSCOW. TICKELL OBSERVED THAT BRITISH HAD NOTED THAT THERE WAS NO ACCESSION CLAUSE IN THE AGREEMENT. TO THIS SEMENOV REPLIED THAT
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SOME PROCEDURE MIGHT BE ENVISAGED, ADDING THAT THE

AMERICANS KNEW ABOUT THE SOVIET DESIRE TO SEE OTHER COUNTRIES SUBSCRIBE TO THE AGREEMENT. AT THIS POINT TICKELL EXPLICITLY INQUIRED WHETHER THE US AGREED WITH THE SOVIET EFFORTS TO CANVASS OTHER STATES TO SUBSCRIBE. ACCORDING TO TICKELL, SEMENOV DID NOT ANSWER THE QUESTION DIRECTLY BUT SAID THE US DID NOT OBJECT. TICKELL COMMENTED TO US THAT IMPLICATION OF SEMENOV'S REMARKS WAS THAT US APPROVED OF SOVIET CANVASSING.

2. IN RECOUNTING FOREGOING TO US, TICKELL SAID THAT HE WAS NOT AWARE THAT THE US HAD ENDORSED SOVIET CANVASSING OF OTHER STATES, AND HE ASKED WHETHER WE COULD CLARIFY THIS POINT FOR HIM.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE ON US POSITION TOWARD ACCESSION OF OTHER STATES AND SOVIET EFFORTS TO SOLICIT SUCH ADHERENCE. SOHM

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